

## Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Native Warm Season Grass Filter Strip Solves Landowner's Dilemma

**G**ary Allen's farm is on Island 40 on the Mississippi River. The island is not protected by a levee system and part of his land floods frequently.

Mr. Allen called the Shelby County Soil Conservation District office to request help in keeping soil out of some water bodies on his land. Because he likes to hunt and has bottomland timber bordering his south property line, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recommended Native Warm Season Grass filter strips to protect the water.

The Native Warm Season Grass filter strip allows cover for deer and turkey. Due to the flooding problem, Mike Hansbrough, Wildlife Biologist recommended switchgrass which is more flood tolerant than other NWSG.

After just one growing season, Mr. Allen called the Soil Conservation District office to come and look at his grass. The switchgrass is over head tall and Mr. Allen states that he sees deer hiding in the grass every time he goes by.

The CRP filter strip on this farm is a big success in controlling runoff and providing the wildlife habitat Mr. Allen wanted.

